

Lowesville, Lincoln Co. N.C.

July 11th 1879

Prof. A. Gray

My dear Sir

Your favor of July 2^d rec^d

I regret you did not extend your visit and explorations to the town of Lincolnton - The Bend of the South Fork, or "Little Catawba", as found on maps, is only one mile south of the village - I have no doubt as to the locality in which Dr. Curtis discovered the Darbya - The Bend in the main Catawba, is 20 miles east of Lincolnton, embracing 5 or 6 hundred ^{of land} acres - The Bend of the South Fork, near Lincolnton, embraces only 15 or 20 acres -

My residence is 16 miles east of Lincolnton - About two years after Dr. Curtis made his discovery, I visited the locality, but unfortunately the whole Bend had been cleared, and was in cultivation - I believe I did pluck off a branch or two of some shrub, without fruit or flower, which I sent to Dr. Curtis for examination - I recollect Dr. Curtis informed me, only a year or two before his death, in passing through Lincolnton, he made a hasty visit to the Bend, but failed to find the Darbya, for the same reason I have assigned - the clearing off, and cultivation of the ground - As old age, and some of its infirmities are gradually stealing upon me, I have been unable of late, to do much for the cause of botanical science, but will say this much, if you could make it convenient at any time soon to visit my retired home, I will accompany ^{you} to Lincolnton & explore every nook of the Bend from "Dan even unto Beersheba" - I remain, as ever, - Yours truly - C. L. Hunter